



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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22 MARCH 1965

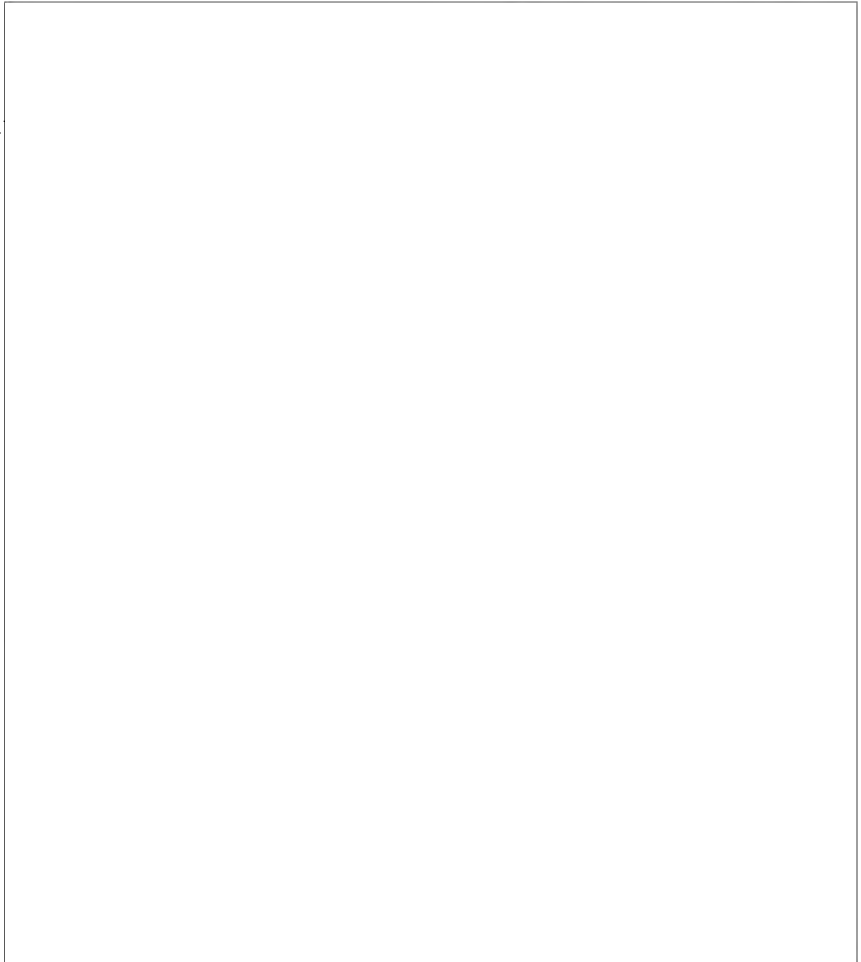
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DAILY BRIEF
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1. Vietnam



2. Communist China

Peiping today came down hard on the 1 March meeting of Communist parties in Moscow. Condemning Moscow's sponsorship of this "divisive meeting" in bitter terms, Peiping declared that the Sino-Soviet dispute has now entered a new phase and called on Moscow to capitulate with a public admission of its errors. Moscow's call for a cessation of polemics is explicitly rejected, and Peiping obviously intends to go all out.

The Soviet dilemma in Vietnam is worsened by this outburst. Any gesture of aid to Hanoi will now appear as a capitulation to Chinese pressure, while a continued delay of aid will seem to prove the Chinese charges.

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3. South Vietnam

Ambassador Taylor had another generally encouraging talk with Premier Quat this morning. Quat says his government's relations with the military remain "satisfactory," and the civilians were giving him no difficulties.

Quat reiterated previous statements that the air strikes are having an "excellent" effect on South Vietnamese morale. The recent speed-up, he said, had quieted some local discontent over what he called the previously slow pace. He thinks the leadership in Hanoi is now probably confused and uncertain over how to respond.

When queried by Taylor about the progress of plans to solve South Vietnam's military manpower shortage, Quat seemed less optimistic. He shunted aside the question of introducing foreign--including American--combat forces, saying he would like to discuss it later. Ambassador Taylor says he received the impression that Quat had not thought this question through.

4. Cyprus

Ambassador Hare's talks late last week with Turkish leaders Urguplu and Isik were not encouraging. Their earlier restraint had changed to truculence, and Ambassador Hare concludes that they seem to be ready to "shoot the works" if they do not get from the Greeks satisfactory assurances that the Turkish Cypriots will be left alone. Urguplu warned that should the US seek to restrain Turkey as it did in 1964, the results would be "catastrophic" for US-Turkish relations.

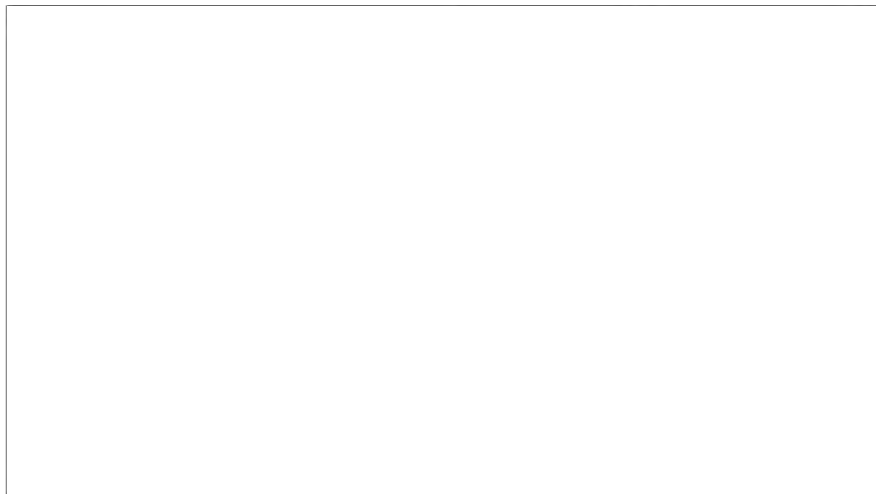
A brief survey of the situation is at Annex.

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5. Indonesia



6. Rumania

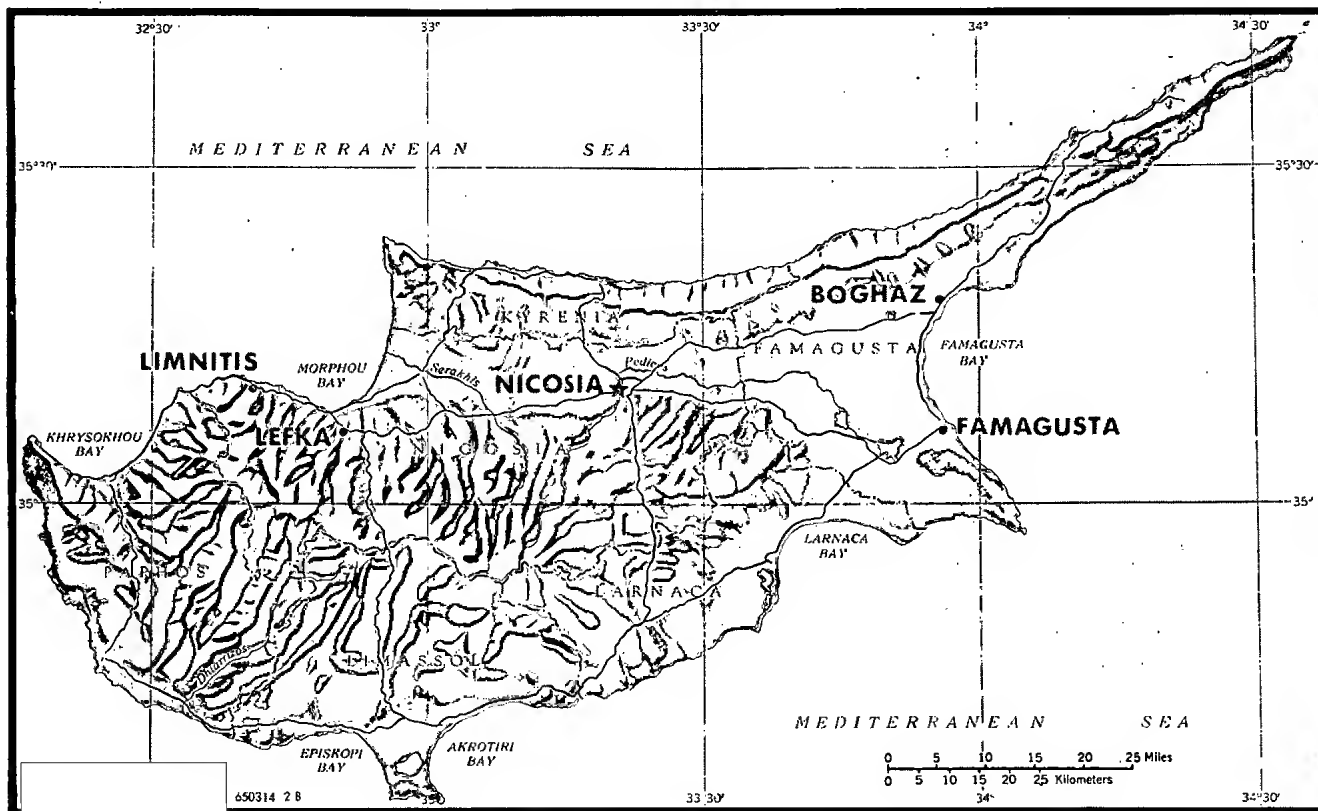
Nicolae Ceausescu has been elected as the new party first secretary to succeed Gheorghiu-Dej. Ceausescu will probably follow the independent line of his predecessor in foreign affairs and may introduce some relaxation of hard-line policies at home. The rapidity of his selection suggests the top party leadership remains strongly unified.

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CYPRUS



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ANNEX

The Situation in Cyprus

The abrupt change in the Turks' attitude probably results from domestic pressures on the leaders of the new government. Both the military and civilian politicians seem determined to force an early show-down, regardless of the cost. Ambassador Hare rates very low the possibility that Urguplu may still be bluffing.

High-level government meetings on the crisis have been in progress over the weekend and will continue through tomorrow. The product of these deliberations will probably be what amounts to an ultimatum to Athens demanding an end to "inhuman" treatment of the Turkish Cypriots, cessation of arms imports, and a reduction of Greek military strength on the island. The Turks have warned that the Greeks will be given but a short time in which to give a positive response. Otherwise, the Turks propose to intervene.

In Athens, the Greeks have seized on US proposals to end the crisis. Premier Papandreou has agreed "without reservations" to a six-month moratorium on provocations from the Greek side, if the Turks will undertake not to intervene by force. General Grivas has agreed "in principle," and a high-level delegation has gone to Nicosia to try to obtain Makarios' acceptance. Athens reports that Makarios has already agreed to rotation of the Turkish contingent on 28-29 March.

It seems doubtful that these indications of Greek goodwill will be sufficient in themselves to satisfy the Turks in their present mood. Moreover, it would be politically impossible for Papandreou to extend such concessions once it became known that the Turks had issued an ultimatum of the kind they are considering. The idea of direct Greek-Turkish talks has disappeared for the moment

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ANNEX (Cont'd)

Ankara may have a distorted impression of the current situation. UN and other observers agree that the Turkish Cypriots, while undergoing occasional harassment, are in fact not living under the "inhuman" conditions which Turkish officials in Nicosia are describing

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